

Where to Go in 2019

TripSavvy's picks for your upcoming year of travel

BY STAFF AUTHOR

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Just like fashion, food, and music, travel destinations follow clear trends. One year, all of your friends are flying to Iceland for the weekend. The next, Disney Springs is the place to be in Florida. And every January you see those trends repeated in “Where to Go This Year” listicles across the internet (shortly followed by a flood of pics on your Instagram feed).

As travel editors, it would be easy for us to follow suit and recommend only trending destinations. But we decided to take a step beyond your classic list and analyze *why* a vacation is great for distinct types of travelers.

To do so, we combed through the results of our first-ever Editors’ Choice Awards — a massive analysis of 60,000 hotels, restaurants, and attractions around the world — to identify the best spots for every type of vacation.

Are you a beer nerd who could spend a week discussing hops? Atlanta stood out for its 20+ breweries — five of which earned top honors in our Editors’ Choice Awards. Are you an avid plant mom, who loves to explore the city but needs some greenery in her life? Go to Portland, Oregon, which houses a 5100-acre forest reserve with more than 70 miles of trails. Do you just want to sit on a beach all day? Hawaii is the old-school choice that’s suddenly cool (and affordable) again.

You’ll see destinations both familiar (Chicago) and perhaps unexpected (Rapid City, South Dakota) on TripSavvy’s list of Where to Go in 2019. But trust that each destination was selected to make your vacation — not your Instagram account — incredible.

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Best Overall Destination for 2019: Memphis



Shannon Fagan / Getty Images

VIEW MAP

ADDRESS

Memphis, TN, USA

Memphis is a hotbed of activity. Formerly abandoned lots and buildings are now fun spots for tourists and locals. At [Crosstown Concourse](#) (in an old Sears distribution warehouse) you can dine in a dozen just opened restaurants including one that taps refugees to do the cooking. An overgrown yard has turned into [Railgarten](#), a 1.5 acre adult playground with a tiki bar, ping pong room, ice cream parlor, diner, sandbox, stage for live music, and much more.

Old establishments are new again. Over the summer the [Memphis Pink Palace Museum](#) reopened its historic mansion after a shiny renovation. The zoo now has a spacious new exhibit on hippos. At the start of 2019 CMPLX, a collective that showcases the work of local black artists, cut the ribbon on a new studio where art exhibits will rotate every three weeks.

Downtown Memphis is dotted with new, must-see sites. The [Hu Hotel](#) has opened on the site of the former Madison Hotel. In its enclosed rooftop you can watch the city's brand new light show that airs every hour on the Mississippi Bridge. Down the street you can visit [Old Dominick](#), the city's only whiskey distillery. It serves a hot toddy Memphis doctors used in previous centuries for medicinal purposes.

Nature lovers will cherish the bike paths that now connect all parts of the city. You can ride over the Mississippi Bridge or in forests with rare animals like blue herons.

If you've visited Memphis before, it's time to go back. The city is alive with change; you might not recognize it. –[Alyson Krueger](#)